

Salem urges MNF to stay on

PARIS (R) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem called Wednesday for the Multi-National Force (MNF) to remain in the Beirut region until all foreign troops had left Lebanon. Mr. Salem was speaking to reporters on his arrival here for talks with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson on Saturday after he attended an Islamic summit in Casablanca which ended Wednesday. He recalled that the four-nation force was in Beirut to help maintain order and the authority of the Lebanese government. "We hope this force will remain until its mission is accomplished to allow the Lebanese government to control completely the Beirut region. Its departure should coincide with the total withdrawal of all foreign forces now in our country," Mr. Salem was expected to leave Paris at the weekend for talks in London with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

2 Israelis killed in Sidon attacks

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Armed men sprayed an Israeli patrol with machine gun fire in Sidon, provincial capital of southern Lebanon, killing one Israeli soldier, eyewitnesses said. Lebanon's state radio said the ambushers included a 12-year-old Lebanese identified as Nazih Kubrosli, who was killed when Israeli troops shot back. Israeli soldiers, in a separate incident, shot at a suspicious package in the Bourj Al Shamali refugee camp near the southernmost Lebanese port of Tyre and two children were wounded by ricocheting bullets. Earlier Wednesday an Israeli army spokesman said in Tel Aviv an Israeli soldier died Wednesday from wounds sustained in an ambush in south Lebanon last Thursday.

Volume 9 Number 2468

AMMAN, THURSDAY-FRIDAY JANUARY 19-20, 1984. RABIA AL THANI 15-16, 1404

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Cabinet preparing policy statement

AMMAN (J.T.) — The new government, headed by Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat, is currently drawing up its policy statement which it will present to parliament and win a vote of confidence, according to Al Rai newspaper. It said the policy statement is mainly based on the speech by His Majesty King Hussein on Monday to a joint session of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament. In accordance with paragraph three of Article 54 of the Constitution each ministry has to present a policy statement to win parliament's approval within one month of starting functioning, the paper said.

Jews plan to move in to Arab Jerusalem

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Zionist organisation has taken steps to increase Jewish population in areas owned by Muslims in Arab Jerusalem, according to reports reaching here. According to these reports the Atara Yeshona organisation plans to spend 300 million shekels on construction in buildings and refurbishing at least 52 flats in the Arab-owned lands inside the walled city. One of these places to be inhabited by Jews is a church-owned plot, said to be located near Herod's Gate, the reports said. According to these reports the new flats will have at least 2,200 square metres of floor space, and the organisation also plans to build two hostels and a synagogue. The reports said that some Jewish families have already moved into a few of these flats that were completed.

Heseltine heads for Falklands

LONDON (R) — British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine left Wednesday on his first visit to the Falkland Islands over which Argentina and Britain fought in 1982. Mr. Heseltine told reporters he wanted to familiarise himself with garrison conditions and progress on new installations there. Britain has 4,000 troops, 12 Phantom fighter-bombers and several frigates protecting the South Atlantic colony claimed by Argentina. Some 1,000 workers are also building a \$300 million airport on the Falklands.

Egyptian aide assails Israel

CAIRO (R) — A senior Egyptian official accused Israel Wednesday of "violating peace objectives to which it committed itself in 1977." Kamel Laila, chairman of the Egyptian National Peoples Assembly said, according to the Middle East News Agency (MENA), that Israeli "expansionist and extremist policies in the region are proof of this violation."

Israeli official resigns in W. Bank

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's chief administrator on the occupied West Bank, Brigadier-General Shlomo Uly, resigned Wednesday, a Defence Ministry spokesman said. He said Gen. Uly had been under military investigation for alleged corrupt practices.

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Jordan-PLO moves depend on progress of talks, says Sharaf

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The progress of Jordan's dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on joint political moves will determine the nature of future co-operation and the course Jordan will follow in co-ordination with the PLO is in line with the goals of liberating the occupied lands and securing the right to self-determination for the Palestinians, Minister of Information Laila Sharaf said Wednesday.

Speaking at her first press conference after taking office, Mrs. Sharaf told reporters that Jordan cannot proceed with President Reagan's peace initiative put forward in September 1982 because the United States failed to fulfil its promises to secure the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and to impose a freeze on Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. "The ball is in the American and Israeli courts," she said. Israel rejected the Reagan plan which proposed Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan, and an Arab proposal for an independent Palestinian state in the occupied territories.

The PLO headed by Yasser Arafat, Mrs. Sharaf said, represents the majority of Palestinians. The authority of the PLO will not be challenged after the liberation of the occupied lands, and Jordan will remain committed to the resolutions of the Rabat summit which emphasised the freedom and independence of the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, she added. No date had yet been set for a meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and the PLO chairman on a joint approach to the settlement of the Palestine problem.

AUB president killed in Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A shadowy Islamic organisation claimed responsibility for the murder Wednesday of the president of the American University in Beirut (AUB) and Tuesday's kidnapping of a Saudi Arabian diplomat here. An anonymous caller, claiming to represent the "Islamic Jihad" holy war organisation, told a foreign news agency in Beirut that the university president, Malcolm Kerr, was killed as part of a campaign to get all American and French nationals out of Lebanon. The caller said his group was also holding Saudi Arabian Consul Hussein Farrash, adding the diplomat was being "judged" under Islamic law.

It was not clear whether the consul's "trial" had yet taken place. But the caller said "his body will soon be disposed of," apparently indicating that Mr. Farrash would be killed.

The caller demanded anew that U.S. and French troops serving with the Multi-National Force (MNF) leave Lebanon "or we shall shake the earth under their feet."

The caller talked in Arabic to the Beirut office of the French news agency Agence France Presse about four hours after Mr. Kerr's death in the western sector of the Lebanese capital.

A U.S. special Middle East envoy Donald Rumsfeld flew in from Israel not long after the assassination. He held a five-hour conference with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel on what the state radio here described as ways of calming turbulence in Lebanon.

Mr. Kerr, 52, a Beirut-born American who specialised in Middle East politics, was gunned down as he emerged from an elevator to walk into his office on the third floor of college hall at 9:10 a.m. (0710 GMT).

His secretary and other AUB staff on the same floor did not hear the shot, but the noise of Mr. Kerr's books, briefcase and umbrella hitting the floor, brought them rushing to the scene.

The reconvening of parliament is totally an internal Jordanian matter that carries no political bearing on the PLO's legitimate representation of the Palestinian people, the information minister said.

Concerning the prospects for a new media policy in Jordan, Mrs. Sharaf said no practical measures

will be taken in that direction in the present time but "there will not be any obstructions for responsible journalists maintaining high standards of journalistic practices."

Credibility and objectivity will be government's policy, information minister says, page 3

10-point programme outlined

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian Information Minister Laila Sharaf Wednesday defined the following 10 principles to serve as basis for the new government's policies in an accordance with His Majesty King Hussein's letter of appointment to the new government:

- 1) Promoting parliamentary and constitutional life in its new course, and developing the democratic experiment and people's participation in government affairs.
- 2) National commitment to the common fate and interests of the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, and the working together in concert to achieve national aspirations. To achieve this, the government will pursue a responsible dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people to arrive at a formula for future joint action.
- 3) Pursuing efforts for restoring and strengthening Arab solidarity.
- 4) Supporting Iraq in its defensive war against aggression and canvassing for Arab support and aid for Iraq and its principles for solving the dispute.
- 5) Supporting Lebanese national reconciliation efforts and the total withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from the country.
- 6) Pursuing efforts aimed at bolstering international co-operation and extending co-operation to all world nations for maintaining global peace and for building a more balanced international economic system, and to seek international help to solve Arab cultural, economic, and political issues.
- 7) Strengthening the Armed Forces to enable them to defend the nation, its stability and independence.
- 8) Promoting educational programmes and methods to cope with the march of development and modernisation in a drive to achieve more progress.
- 9) Promoting economic achievements and endeavouring to strengthen national economy by providing it with means of protection against world economic crises.
- 10) To seek the participation of all able and committed citizens and for this purpose the government will give due care to integrated social development.

Debate over Egypt divides OIC summit

CASABLANCA (R) — Hardline Arab states attending the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) summit have warned they may walk out if moderates continue to press for Egypt's return to the 45-member body, conference sources said Wednesday.

A proposal to review Egypt's status brought strong objections from hardliners like Syria, Libya and Algeria during a closed-door session which ended in the early hours, the sources said.

Libyan delegate Abdul Salam Jalloud was quoted as saying, "Do you want to gain one member at the risk of losing several others?"

Egypt was suspended from the OIC in 1979 for signing a separate peace treaty with Israel. A review of Egypt's status was proposed by African and Asian heads of state, notably Presidents Mohammed Zia Ul-Haq of Pakistan and Ahmad Sekou Touré of Guinea, and backed by Sudan, Turkey, Senegal and Somalia, the sources said.

The issue was expected to be discussed further at a closed door session before the summit closes late Wednesday or early Thursday morning.

'Arafat-Khaddam meeting'

On the Middle East, the main problem debated by the summit, there were contradictory reports of a meeting between Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam.

The official Moroccan news agency MAP said they met Tuesday in Casablanca but later retracted the story which was also denied by Palestinian sources.

But senior Moroccan sources insisted Tuesday they met for one hour but the report was quashed at the demand of the Syrians. A Syrian-PLO reconciliation would be a major breakthrough after Mr. Arafat and his supporters were forced to withdraw from north Lebanon last month in the face of attacks by Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels.

Deputies of the Lower House of Parliament Wednesday take part in elections to fill seven seats representing the West Bank (Petra photo) —

Lower House elects deputies to fill seven West Bank seats

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Seven Palestinians from the West Bank were Wednesday elected members of the Lower House of Parliament according to Article 88 of the Constitution.

Article 88, which was amended in 1973, empowers the House to nominate and elect deputies whose election is rendered impossible due to compelling situations.

The article was applied in Wednesday's elections because elections cannot be held in the West Bank due to the Israeli occupation.

According to the article's provisions three-fourths of the membership of the 60-member house should be present during the nomination and election process, and each candidate should secure at least two-thirds of the votes cast. Wednesday's session of the House was attended by 44 members.

The seven seats filled Wednesday represent different regions in the West Bank. They are: Jerusalem (one seat), Bethlehem (two seats), Jenin (two seats), Ramallah (one seat) and Tul-karem (one seat). A total of 44 candidates nominated themselves to fill the seats.

Mr. Daoud Daoud was elected out of eight candidates nominated

for the Jerusalem seat securing 32 votes.

Mr. Ribhi Mustapha and Mohammad Dhawayeb were elected out of six candidates nominated for the Bethlehem region securing 34 and 34 votes respectively.

Mr. Fayyad Jarrar and Mr. Ma'rouf Rabbia were elected to fill the two Jenin seats with 33 and 31 votes respectively.

Mr. Ziyad Younis, who secured 35 votes, was elected from the Tul-karem region out of eight candidates.

None of the 13 candidates nominated for the Ramallah region could secure two-thirds of the votes cast. Instead of holding another round of House elections for Ramallah between two candidates securing the highest number of votes, Dr. Jihad Barghouti, who secured 15 votes, opted to withdraw and Dr. Musa Abu Ghosh, who won 26 votes, was elected to fill the seat.

Wednesday's elections brings to 52 the current members in the 60-member House. The rest eight vacant seats, which represent East Bank constituencies, are to be filled through by-elections within two months, in accordance with an amendment to Article 73 of the Constitution adopted by the House during its extraordinary session held Jan. 4.

The East and the West Banks have 30 seats each in the Lower

House, suspended by His Majesty King Hussein in 1974, after the Arab League recognised the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

'Expression of free will'

Wednesday's parliamentary session was presided over by its new speaker, Akel Al Fayed, and attended by Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat and members of the cabinet.

Mr. Obaidat, commenting on the outcome of Wednesday's elections, said that it was a "free expression of the members' will." "The deputies have exercised their right in absolute freedom, and responsible democracy, which satisfied all of us, and this attitude clearly conforms fully with the Constitution and the Election Law and the government's drive to enhance constitutional life in the country," the prime minister said.

Mr. Obaidat added that the newly elected deputies will exercise their right after taking the constitutional oath in accordance with parliamentary procedures.

In reply to a question about women's participation in parliamentary elections, Mr. Obaidat said that women already have the right to take part in elections and "there is no need for an amendment to the election law to grant women this right."

Arab summit may be delayed

BAHRAIN (R) — An Arab summit scheduled to be held in Riyadh on March 31 could be postponed for the second time because of inter-Arab differences, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported Wednesday.

The agency, quoting official sources in Riyadh, said Arab foreign ministers would meet in the Saudi capital on Feb. 24 to prepare the summit agenda.

But the sources said it was possible disagreement on some of the major issues to be discussed might lead to a further postponement of the meeting, KUNA added.

The summit, the first since a meeting in Fez, Morocco in September 1982, was due to have been held last November. But Saudi Arabia postponed it indefinitely because of inter-Arab differences, principally the continued fighting in Lebanon and the split in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Diplomatic sources in the Gulf have said the Saudis are anxious not to host a summit that does little more than hold Arab differences up to the light of world opinion.

The Fez summit was hailed as a triumph for Arab unity, producing an Arab Middle East peace plan calling for an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but implicitly recognising Israel.

Last month's the evacuation of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and some 4,000 loyalist commandos from Lebanon ended months of fighting between them and Syrian-backed PLO radicals, but the Palestinian movement's future strategy remains undecided.

Shamir criticises Jordan

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Wednesday "condemned" Jordan for trying to work closely with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) "instead of seeking peace with Israel."

Mr. Shamir told parliament that Israel was disappointed that Jordan was using the reconvening of its parliament earlier this month, after a 10-year suspension, to "mend" relations with the PLO.

"Jordanian speakers have declared repeatedly they have no intention to hit at the PLO or to take over its mandate as the only representative of the Arabs of the land of Israel."

"The Jordanian government knows very well that Israel will not conduct any negotiations direct or indirect with terrorists," Mr. Shamir said.

King Hussein, in his opening speech to the newly reconvened parliament this week, said he viewed co-operation with the PLO as a national priority.

Mr. Shamir said Wednesday: "Jordan's behaviour in the international arena does not signal moderation or a willingness for peace with Israel."

Shultz, Gromyko begin talks on East-West ties

STOCKHOLM (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko Wednesday began the first high-level superpower talks in four months after an angry tirade by Mr. Gromyko against the United States.

Only four hours before they met at the Soviet embassy, Mr. Gromyko accused the Reagan administration of "thinking in terms of war and acting accordingly."

Mr. Shultz's motorcade drove in heavy snow through the black gates of the embassy on the western outskirts of Stockholm, where Mr. Gromyko was waiting. Police lined Mr. Shultz's route.

The talks were the first between the two men since last September, when they had a frosty encounter after Soviet pilots shot down a South Korean airliner.

Since then, relations have been further soured by U.S. missile deployments in Western Europe and a

Gromyko attacks U.S. missile deployments in Europe, page 8

Italy begins reduction of Lebanon contingent

ROME (R) — Italy has begun to reduce its contingent to the Multinational Force in Lebanon, a Defence Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

The spokesman confirmed Italian press and radio reports that the 622-man "cerchia" Battalion of Bersaglieri Infantrymen, which began returning to Italy Tuesday, would not be replaced.

This would leave the Italian contingent at around 1,500 men, the spokesman said. Those who will stay are mainly paratroops and marines.

Press reports said a first detachment of 110 Bersaglieri flew into Venice Tuesday and the whole battalion would be back in Italy by Jan. 26.

Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini announced last month that there would be a "balanced reorganisation" of the Italian contingent, a phrase interpreted to mean its reduction.

Italian politicians have expressed fears that the force, which is also made up of troops from Britain, France and the United States, could get caught up in internal Lebanese fighting.

Italian government officials

have hinted the Italian contingent could eventually be reduced to 1,100 men, the figure they say was originally agreed with the Lebanese government.

The officials say the contingent swelled to more than 2,000 for technical and security reasons.

France has also reduced its contingent by re-assigning some 400 men to the long-standing United Nations force in South Lebanon.

Syria urges resistance

In Damascus an official Syrian newspaper Wednesday described U.S. Marines in Beirut as a "militia" and called on the Lebanese to step up resistance against what it termed the American-Israeli occupation of Lebanon.

Referring to the U.S. Marines, who form part of a Multinational Force in Beirut, the newspaper Al Thawra said: "The American forces have turned into militias fighting with one Lebanese faction against another and have deviated

from their original aim."

It called on the Lebanese people to "step up resistance against American-Israeli occupation."

Al Thawra said the Lebanese should create the right atmosphere to ensure the success of national reconciliation talks and work on the abrogation of the May 17 agreement with Israel.

It also called for the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces, "and the Multinational Force which is considered as the other face of the Israeli invasion and occupation," of Lebanon.

The Syrian government has rejected any political settlement in Lebanon unless the controversial troop withdrawal agreement with Israel is abrogated.

The Syrian demand, echoed by Syria's Lebanese allies, is believed to be behind the delay in implementing a comprehensive security plan to disengage combatants in Lebanon.

The Syrian newspaper Tishreen quoted U.S. special envoy Donald Rumsfeld as telling Syrian officials that Washington planned to handle the Lebanese crisis in several stages, leaving any pending issues until after the U.S. presidential election.

The new government of conservative Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is insisting that Turkey be re-admitted.

Turkish parliament could not validly constitute a delegation to the assembly due to Turkey's human rights record and the exemption of some political parties from last November's general elections.

The assembly would last September that the then-planned new

parliamentary assembly following the end of military rule last month.

It is still uncertain whether Turkey, which has not been represented in the Strasbourg-based assembly since the military coup of 1980, will participate in its next meeting scheduled for Jan. 30.

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NAAA team holds talks with Reagan

WASHINGTON (USIA) — A delegation from the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA) met with President Reagan and some of his senior advisers on Jan. 16 to exchange ideas and opinions and to see where we agree and disagree," according to the leader of the delegation, NAAA President Robert Joseph.

Describing the meeting for reporters Jan. 17, Mr. Joseph said it was "a real opportunity... to express ourselves and give an overview on a number of subjects." He added that the meeting was "friendly and cordial" but neither side convinced the other to revise its views.

During the meeting at the White House, Mr. Joseph said his group had told the president of their support for his administration's diplomatic activities in Lebanon and for its efforts toward unifying Lebanon and encouraging broader participation in the Gemayel government by all Lebanese.

However, Mr. Joseph said the delegation also had expressed the NAAA's concern over the U.S. military involvement in Lebanon and the administration's strategic co-operation agreement with Israel.

"We indicated we were extremely pleased with the dialogue opened with Syria," Mr. Joseph said, adding that he had urged the president to consider meeting with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

"In our opinion," Mr. Joseph said, "dialogue with Syria is crucial to a solution in Lebanon and a solution in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question."

Mr. Joseph also said the NAAA shares the administration's concern over Soviet influence in the Middle East, adding that most Arab states "are in no way, shape or form attracted to the Soviet Union or to Communism."

Mr. Joseph would repeat little of what the president had to say. However, he did note that President Reagan had told the delegation that a precipitous withdrawal of the U.S. Marines from Lebanon would "pull the rug from under the Lebanese people."

Mr. Joseph said the NAAA agreed that a sudden withdrawal would not be good. He said what the NAAA would like to see is a United Nations force to replace the Multinational Force, although he admitted this is not likely because such a move would be vetoed by the Soviet Union in the U.S. Security Council.

Mr. Joseph suggested an alternative might be a force composed of Third World countries that would not be a part of the East-West conflict.

Mr. Joseph said his delegation came away with the feeling that President Reagan sincerely wants to bring the Marines home from Lebanon, but first he wants to see results in broadening the Gemayel government and removing foreign forces from Lebanon — both of which the NAAA agrees with.

Although the NAAA has had ready access to senior administration officials, Mr. Joseph

reached a record 1987 per cent, has particularly hit people living on fixed incomes since welfare payments have failed to keep up with price rises.

The report said about 300,000 of Israel's poor depended solely on welfare payments for their income. It called on the government to exempt them from tax.

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Robert Joseph

said this was the first time a delegation has met with President Reagan.

Among those meeting with the 12-man NAAA delegation, in addition to President Reagan, were Vice President Bush, Presidential Adviser Edwin Meese, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy and National Security Council Members Geoffrey Kemp and John M. Poindexter.

Shultz' conference

Meanwhile in Stockholm U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said American forces are in Lebanon to help stabilise the country.

He told a news conference, following his formal address to the Conference on Disarmament in Europe, that the objective of U.S. forces in Lebanon — a component of the Multinational Force — is to help bring about stability and peace there and establish Lebanese sovereignty. In order to do that, he added, it is necessary for all foreign forces to be withdrawn from Lebanon.

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Iraqi planes shoot down Iranian jet

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi warplanes Wednesday shot down an Iranian jet in a dogfight over the northern sector of the Gulf war the official Iraqi News Agency said.

The agency quoted an Iraqi military spokesman as saying the clash took place after two Iranian jets attacked a residential area in Sulaimaniya province Wednesday morning.

"Iraqi jets intercepted the two Iranian warplanes and in the ensuing dogfight one of the two was shot down and was seen falling in flames inside Iranian territory," he was quoted as saying.

Two Iraqi children were killed and 18 other people wounded in the Iranian attack, in which three houses were destroyed, the spokesman added.

Iranian attack expected

Meanwhile a Tehran newspaper has indicated Iran is preparing a fresh offensive in its 40-month-old war with Iraq.

The daily Islamic Republic said thousands of Iranian troops have left the last few days "to deal the final blow" at Iraq.

Recent statements from Iraq said the government believed a new Iranian offensive was imminent with reports of an Iranian buildup on the southern front.

Tehran newspapers have also printed photographs of revolutionary guards and men des-

cribed as volunteers heading for the battlefield over the past week.

The last two major Iranian offensives last year took place in the rugged northern and central fronts, but only minor battlefield activity has been reported recently.

The speaker of Iran's parliament has told the Soviet Ambassador, Moscow should not help invasions against Iran and criticized the Soviet Union for "basically unprincipled actions," Tehran newspapers reported.

Iran is currently staging trials of 111 members of the pro-Moscow Tudeh Communist Party who are alleged to have aided the Soviet Union and plotted to overthrow the Islamic Republic. All face possible death sentences.

Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Rafsanjani made his remarks Tuesday in a meeting with the Soviet ambassador, V.K. Boldyrev.

Mr. Boldyrev had called on him to deliver a message from Moscow inviting Iran to join it in the fight against imperialism and nuclear proliferation.

"Iran is one of the significant centres of confrontation with imperialism in the region," the daily Islamic Republic quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying.

Islamic Republic said the Soviet ambassador told Mr. Rafsanjani that his government "resented" publicity against the Soviet Union voiced in several parts of Iran and by Iran's mass media.

Founder of Iraqi army dies

LONDON (R) — Colonel Taufiq Wahby, founder of the Iraqi army, has died in London at the age of 93, the Times newspaper reported Wednesday.

Colonel Wahby, a Kurd, fought in the Ottoman army against the Italians in 1911 and was awarded the Iron Cross by the Germans in 1914.

The British appointed him a Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1945 for his

work in promoting bilateral relations. During World War II he had devised a defence strategy for Iraq against possible German invasion.

He held several ministerial posts under the Iraqi monarchy. After the overthrow of the monarchy in 1958, Colonel Wahby went into exile in Britain. He wrote more than 20 books on the history and languages of the Middle East.

Sinai force gets fresh troops

WASHINGTON (R) — Fresh U.S. troops numbering about 1,500 will be sent to the Sinai this month to replace a contingent now there as the American contribution to the Multi-National Force and Observers, the Pen-

tagon said Wednesday.

The unit, to be deployed for six months, will be composed of 500 soldiers from the 2nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and 350 soldiers from other locations.

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by the information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:00 Cairo (EA)
07:15 Jeddah (RU)
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Hassan, Perez de Cuellar hold talks in Casablanca

CASABLANCA, Morocco (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan discussed with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar here Tuesday Middle East developments and the role of the U.N. in advancing peace efforts, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Prince Hassan also explained to Mr. Perez de Cuellar Jordan's stand regarding the continued Israeli occupation of Arab lands and Israel's expansionist policies which entail the annexation of Arab territory and the eviction of Arab population from their land, Petra said.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar, in Casablanca to attend the fourth summit conference of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) which ended Wednesday, has proposed the convening of a Middle East peace conference under the auspices of the U.N.

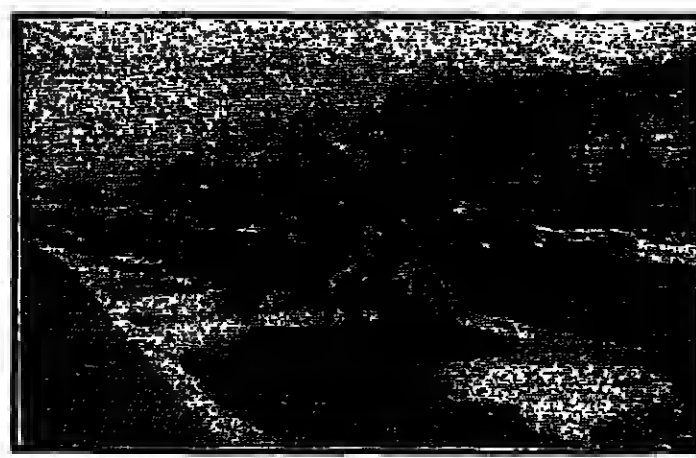
Prince Hassan, leading the Jordanian delegation to the summit, addressed the conference Tuesday.

Prince Hassan earlier met with Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba with whom he exchanged views on Arab affairs and discussed topics on the Islamic summit's agenda, Petra said.

Later, he met with Mr. Ahmad Muktar M'bow, director general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to discuss co-operation between Jordan and the U.N. organisation. Among the topics discussed was the status of Jerusalem and ways of protecting holy places there under Israeli occupation.

Prince Hassan also met with the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, to discuss subjects on the agenda of the Islamic conference which he also discussed later with Algerian Foreign Minister Al Taleb Al Ibrahim.

The meetings were attended by Court Minister Adnan Abu Odch, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar and Jordan's representative to the Arab League.



Two views of Amman both featuring the first snow of the winter which greeted the inhabitants of the capital Wednesday morning (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)



Rain gives farmers hope, causes minor disruptions

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN (J.T.) — Rain fell in most parts of Jordan Wednesday giving some hope to farmers that this will not be a drought year.

The meteorological department said that rain fell in Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Karak and Shobak Governorates in varying degrees and snow also fell on high regions especially in Shobak, Wadi Muna, Ras Al Naqab, Amman and Salt.

Forecast more scattered rain for Thursday especially in the eastern regions of the country, though with a slight rise in temperature. In view of the rain which fell almost continuously in Amman Tuesday night, the Public Security Department urged citizens to take precautionary measures and keep away from low lying regions and the banks of streams.

It called on all citizens to help open culverts and canals to facilitate the flow of rain water and so help avert the danger of flooding homes. The department called on the public to seek help from the civil defence if any emergency arises, especially when are unable to cope with the situation.

It gave the telephone number 199 for people in the capital to call in order to get help from civil defence centres.

According to the Public Security Department, all roads in the country are safe and open and no accidents have been reported caused by the weather conditions.

A department spokesman named the following numbers for the Amman public to call in case of emergency: 30321, 39793, 29141, 813852.

In Salt the public can call 5621, in Aqaba 2411, in Irbid 4100, in Karak 51101, in Ma'an 32101, Al Badia 73131 and Zarqa 812121.

Filling stations to close after petrol adulteration

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) has decided to close down three petrol stations in Jordan which were found to have mixed kerosene with petrol sold to motorists, a JPRC spokesman said Wednesday.

He said that the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism has been notified of the action together with the Ministry of Supply and the General Union of Petrol Stations.

JPRC teams conduct regular inspections of all petrol stations in the country to ensure that they abide by specifications set for the sale of each oil bi-product, the spokesman said.

He called on the public to notify JPRC whenever they discover any discrepancies in the oil products they buy from petrol stations.

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New information minister outlines future attitude to press

Credibility, objectivity to be state media policy, says Laila Sharaf

By Salameh Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Information Laila Sharaf Wednesday defined her ministry's future policy within the framework of principles included in His Majesty King Hussein's letter of appointment addressed to Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat, and the King's speech from the throne.

She said that her ministry is determined to maintain an information policy characterised by credibility, objectivity and rationality to encourage collective participation on the part of the public as a contribution to Jordan's development and in a drive to enhance national pride.

Addressing a press conference held at the Jordan International Hotel in Amman, Mrs. Sharaf said that her ministry's general policies will be based on respect for the Jordanian citizen, his awareness and his senses.

"We believe in the awareness and maturity of the Jordanian society, and we will maintain open channels with the people without any constraints or complications because we believe that such communication is bound to ensure a continuation of consultation and cooperation as well as collective efforts to promote the role of information that will lead to self-control whenever the need arises for the public to safeguard Jordan's interests and progress," the minister said.

She told representatives of the press and information media in Jordan, Arab and foreign countries that her ministry is well aware of the full meaning of the "credibility of information work" and will do its best to maintain this in all its departments in cooperation with the national press.

"The role of information is not merely to convey news to the public," she said, "but rather is a means through which to develop the minds and mentality of the new generation and so orientate them in positive, scientific and truthful analysis by avoiding hypocrisy and striving to present the truth," Mrs. Sharaf added.

She said that her ministry will exert every possible effort to put this into practice, instead of just demanding that the people do what they are told.

"The Ministry of Information will promote the dynamics of information and news, and will encourage all national media to adopt this policy," the minister said.

She added that the ministry is well aware of the importance of Arab information abroad and realises its shortcomings. For this reason, she continued, it will pursue efforts to bridge the gap, as much as possible, and will also maintain open channels with Arab and foreign news organisations in Jordan.

The ministry will furthermore build strong, friendly ties with those organisations which play a leading role in influencing world public opinion, Mrs. Sharaf said.

The Ministry of Information, she said, has a profound faith in our national heritage and in our people's true sense of belonging to the nation and its genuine cultural roots. This, she said, should be reflected in the national news, as well

as the cultural and artistic programmes.

"We will adopt a policy of research, scrutiny and deep study before presenting any programmes pertaining to culture, art, theatre and news but will also maintain open windows to the outside world in a very healthy and positive manner that will enhance and enrich our national culture," the minister added.

"We believe that the richness of our heritage reached a climax with the advent of Islam and when the Arabs carried the religion to other cultures and nations with whom they mixed to give us the present culture in which we take pride," Mrs. Sharaf said.

If we wish to leave to our children a heritage to augment that of our ancestors, we have to follow in their footsteps and keep all doors and windows open to fruitful cultural communications, she said. In this respect, she added, information constitutes one of the widest channels and the major means of communication.

The Ministry of Information, Mrs. Sharaf said, is not an enemy

of researchers and journalists nor is it practising to compete with them. Rather, she said, it is a friend and a protector; a helper and a guide.

"Therefore, she said, the ministry looks forward to a positive and meaningful relationship with all media men and will keep its department's doors open to them, because it hopes, through constructive and positive cooperation with the media, that it will help maintain a proper standard for the press in the best interests of the profession and the interest of the Jordanian society at large.

"These principles," she said, "place on all media people a heavier burden than they can imagine."

"The ministry now intends to shift the burden of responsibility for positive and mature information dissemination to the media people who will be expected to exercise self-control whenever the need arises."

"Thus, she said, our press will not become an arena for propagating rumours and irresponsible talk nor will the press be able to peddle personal vendettas and destructive attitudes," she said.

"This policy of a liberal press calls on everyone of you to abide strictly by the ethical charter of the profession and the ministry will place upon your shoulders the responsibility of pursuing efforts for promoting journalism and information in Jordan to a degree where it will act as a vanguard for the nation's progress," the minister said.

The Ministry of Information, she added, will be watching this with hope and vigilance, "and will act as a trusted guard to prevent any abuse by anybody of our joint march towards national aspirations, ambitions and goals."



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Decree approves new water law

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Wednesday approving the new Water Authority Law. Under this law, the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority (AWSA) and the Water Supply Corporation (WSC) have been merged into one authority to be known as the Water Authority.

Shaker meets visiting U.S. senator

AMMAN (Petra) — The Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief, Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Wednesday conferred with the visiting American Senator Daniel Moynihan. The meeting was attended by the U.S. ambassador to Jordan Richard Viets.

Hikmat visits joint transport company

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport Taher Hikmat paid a visit Wednesday to the Jordanian-Iraqi Land Transport Company and met its Director-General Eid Al Fayez who briefed him on the company's activities and the company's operating procedure. Mr. Hikmat later toured the company's various sections and was briefed on its commercial and financial situation. Accompanying the minister on this visit were the ministry's under-secretary, Hashim Al Taher, and other officials.

Balqa farmers urged to grow trees

SALT (Petra) — The agriculture directorate in the Balqa Governorate has called on farmers to start growing fruit and forest tree saplings of various types. Director of agriculture in the governorate Issam Naser said that the amount of rain which fell in the governorate in the past two days has greatly improved the chances of this being a good agricultural season. The rain in Salt over the past 24 hours has reached 53 millimetres, sufficient for growing seeds on high lands, Mr. Naser added.

Two hour delay on calls to Greece expected daily

AMMAN (Petra) — Direct telephone communication between Jordan and Greece will be suspended for two hours daily throughout the coming four weeks starting Jan. 20, according to Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director-General Mohammad Shahed Ismail.

The stoppage will be between three and five in the afternoon, he said.

Also, according to Mr. Ismail, all telephone communications with the rest of the world via the special international telephone system will be suspended during this period.

He said that this temporary suspension is due to maintenance work on the Syrian part of the maritime cable which links Syria with Greece.

Trees planted on campus

IRBID (Petra) — A tree planting celebration was held at the campus of Yarmouk University to mark Arbor Day Wednesday. A large number of forest trees were planted.

The agricultural supervisor at the site, Dr. Amin Gharaibeh, said that 3,200 dunums will be used to plant trees and shrubs during the current year.

Taking part in the celebration were the deans of the engineering and medical faculties, director of students affairs as well as a number of university officials and students.

In the course of its celebrations on this occasion, the Public Security Department Tuesday held a tree-planting celebration at the Al Omari border post.

Jordan heritage film wins fifth award

AMMAN (J.T.) — "Jordan, Land of Heritage," a Marilyn Perry Production Inc., has been the recipient of another bronze award.

The 1983 International Film and Television Festival of New York, an annual event supported by all segments of the communications industry, the trade press and governmental agencies in the United States and abroad, bestowed this award under the category of "History and Biography."

In all, 40 entries were submitted under this category and only three were recognised by the festival as being award-winning works.

Entries in the awards competition are judged by panels of distinguished professionals recruited from leading advertising agencies, corporations, marketing and production companies and television networks and groups.

The "blue ribbon" jury for television programmes is comprised of 12 leading programming executives from top broadcast and cable concerns.

Overall, there were 4,417 entries in the 1983 competition; out of which 1,022 dealt with the film and A/V production industry.

The number of domestic companies that submitted entries amounted to 1,523; 312 being of international origin.

Forty-five countries represented in all.

The award ceremonies, hosted by three of America's best known television personalities, Hugh Downs, Arlene Francis and Gene Rayburn, took place on Nov. 11 at the Imperial Ballroom of the Sheraton Centre Hotel, in New York.

The production on Jordan has so far received five awards of international stature; the CINE Golden Eagle Award, Washington, D.C., the Bronze Compass from Prix ITB '83, Berlin, Certificate of Creative Excellence from the U.S. Industrial Film Festival, and a cer-

tificate of merit from the International Film Festival of Chicago, "Jordan, Land of Heritage," narrated by Sir John Gielgud, travels to the spots and places of interest in the Kingdom.

Sequences were filmed at Petra, Jerash, Wadi Rum, Aqaba, Amman and other locations.

Ms. Perry and a staff of 15 professionals spent four months in the Middle East filming this production.

This film was presented to the Jordan government as a gift by its sponsor, the Dutco Group of Dubai.

Ms. Perry is president of the company bearing her name, and is recognised as one of the foremost film producers in the U.S. specialising in international affairs.

Her series of programmes entitled "International Byline" is produced at studios in the United Nations building in New York and is distributed for broadcast by television and satellite stations throughout North America.

He explained that the law of the chamber needs some amendments in respect to the way it classifies industries, the limited possibility for industrial establishments to elect members to its board of directors as well as to the limited role of the chamber itself.

Mr. Budair said that the chamber's sixth board of directors,

aims of the programme.

About 35 specialists from neighbouring Arab and Islamic countries will attend the seminar.

The seminar is being organised by the Arab Planning Institute (API) of Kuwait, economics department of the Royal Scientific Society, the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank and the Technical Cooperation and Training College (TESRTC) of Ankara, Turkey.

Training and updating the knowledge of the participants, as well as facilitating the exchange of experience will be some of the

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Tayseer Abdul Jaber

Abdul Jaber visits Amman vocational colleges

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jaber, who is also chairman of the board of directors of the Vocational Training Corporation, Wednesday made an inspection of vocational

Poorer North nation's children also suffer recession's impact

GENEVA — The world economic recession is now beginning to have an impact on the lives of children around the world according to a new study prepared by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

In Zambia, information from the poorer northern regions is indicating a fall in children's height-for-age. In Sao Paulo, the proportion of low birth-weight babies is rising. In Costa Rica, the number of children being treated for severe malnutrition has doubled between 1981 and 1982. In the USSR, infant death rates have been rising for some time and in the United States, infant mortality has also risen in areas such as Alabama and Michigan which have been particularly hard hit by the recession.

Because the poor spend a greater proportion of their money on necessities, says the report, any fall in incomes inevitably inflicts its most serious consequences on the poorer classes. And if the families of the poor have to cut back on basics like food, fuel and medical care, then it is the growing minds and bodies of young children which suffer most.

Most of the economic mechanisms which link poor communities to the international economic system, says UNICEF, also tend to amplify the shock waves of economic recession. It has been estimated, for example, that a 1 per cent in the rate of growth of the industrialised countries produces, on average, a 1.5 per cent fall in the rate of growth of the developing nations. Similarly, within the developing nations themselves, a 2 per cent or 3 per cent fall in average incomes often becomes a 10 per cent or 15 per cent fall in the incomes of the poor. Even within poor communities, says UNICEF, it is often the weaker members — the women and young children — who have to go without. "If we take into account the combined effect of these multipliers," says the report, "it is easy to see that for a poor child of a large landless family engaged in, say the export-oriented sector of a low-income economy, even a drop of two or three points in the growth rate of the industrialised nations may easily result in a deterioration of income of 50 per cent or more."

Falling family income is therefore the main medium for the transmission of recession's impact to children. And in many parts of the world, average incomes have begun to decline for the first time in many years. Africa is the hardest hit continent: when the figures for 1982 are confirmed, it is expected that per capita GNP in the nations south-of-the-Sahara will have fallen by another two per cent. In a country like Zambia, heavily dependant on copper prices which have reached their low-

est level for 50 years, average family incomes have been almost halved. In Latin America, incomes have also declined for two consecutive years. And in Costa Rica, real incomes are down by as much as a third.

"In most of the case study countries for which there is data," concludes the report, "the number of people and children living below the poverty line shows an upward trend."

The other main channel by which recession reaches children is reduced government spending on child services such as clinics, schools, supplementary feeding programmes, and immunisation campaigns. Because social welfare programmes of this kind are not usually protected by powerful interest groups, and because they are often considered as luxuries, they usually suffer quickly and disproportionately from government cut-backs. Under the impact of recession in Tanzania, for example, the share of government spending devoted to basic needs programmes has declined from 26 per cent. Similarly in Zambia, the share of social services in total government spending has fallen from 30 per cent in 1977 to 20 per cent in 1980. Even in India, government expenditure on child-related services has been cut from 15 per cent to 12 per cent of total government expenditure in the country's Fifth Five Year Plan.

"In most countries," concludes the report, "there seems to have been a systematic sacrifice of the 'social' sectors to the 'economic' in the erroneous belief that social means 'uneconomic'. The fact is that by both hard-headed economic calculations and by the most elementary tenets of human welfare, investment in the health and skills and well-being of children is the most essential investment of all."

Looking to what can be done to protect children from the worst impact of recession, the report argues that the relationship between the state of a country's economy and the well-being of its children is more a matter of policy and priorities than of any rigid ratio. Nations like Sri Lanka, for example, have achieved levels of child health and education which are far higher than in many countries which are three or even four times richer.

Within nations, the report argues that services for children should be the last items to be cut, not the first. This may well mean, the report implies, that the economic shock of recession should be absorbed by the wants of the rich rather than the needs of the poor.

Internationally, the families of the poor can be helped by lower interest rates and fewer trade restrictions plus increased development aid and changes in international financial arrangements

to prevent the main burden of the recession from falling on those least able to sustain it.

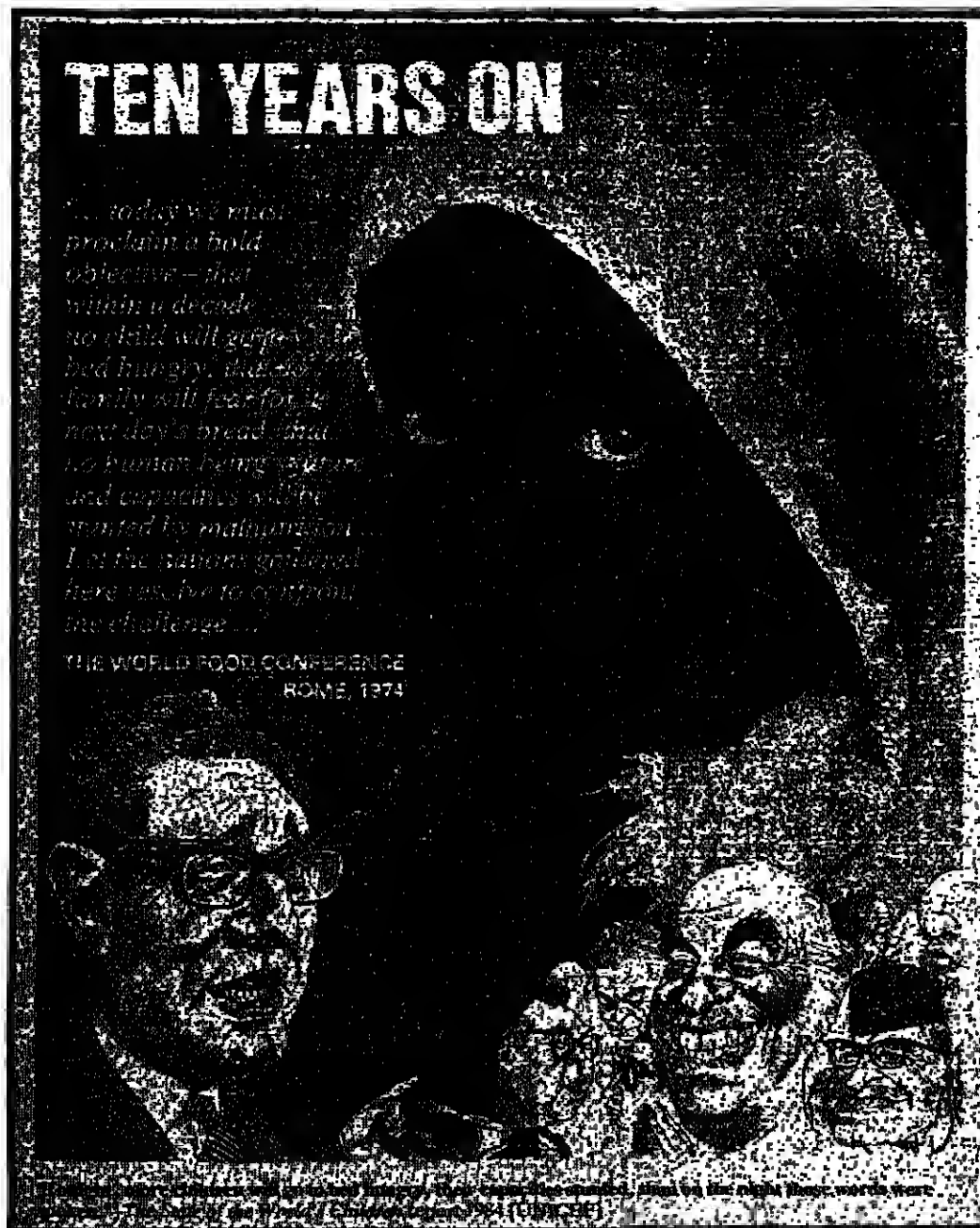
Because the full impact of recession would take time to make itself known, says UNICEF, the evidence now available should be read as a clear warning signal that, for children, the worst is to come.

The Impact of World Recession on Children is being issued at the same time as UNICEF's annual State of the World's Children report which this year draws together examples from all over the world of low-cost techniques which, says UNICEF, can maintain and even accelerate progress for children — despite the recession.

"For the rest of this decade," says UNICEF, "the first principle of progress will be 'making more of what you have' and changing the ratio between resources and results." — UNICEF



"In the last year, evidence has been coming in from around the world to show that drastic gains in child well-being can be achieved at a relatively low cost and in a relatively short time despite economic recession." — The State of the World's Children report 1984 (UNICEF)



'Buddhist scriptures say many births cause sorrow'

Thais stop at two

By Catherine Campbell
Reuter

BANGKOK — Sir Winston Churchill is the newest recruit in the world's most successful birth control campaign.

Glowing from the front of a T-shirt, Britain's late World War II prime minister gives his two-fingered V-for-victory sign. Says the caption: Stop at two.

Two children a family is the target of Meechai Veeravaidhya, the persuasive head of Thailand's Population and Community Development Association (PDA), who has almost single-handedly put entertainment into birth control.

He has also made it work. The number of children per family has plummeted from 3.3 ten years ago to 1.8 this year, which according to United Nations figures is the fastest decline in human history.

Mr. Meechai, whose calling card is a condom, is confident the number will drop to 1.5 a family by 1986, largely because the idea that two children are enough has taken hold and because the PDA has widely publicised and distributed family planning aids.

Mr. Meechai considers vasectomies to be the best method of birth control for families who want no more children.

"We have launched the world's first nationwide vasectomy campaign," he said. "In terms of vasectomy, you have to go to the people, make it convenient for them."

"At present more women than men are being sterilised and we want to reverse that trend," Mr. Meechai said. "It's a much simpler operation for men. It's also che-

aper, and we're not a rich country."

Since 1980 Mr. Meechai has held well-publicised vasectomy clinics on the May 1 Labour Day holiday and on the Dec. 5 birthday of Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

Last Dec. 5 his volunteer doctors claimed the world record for the number of vasectomies performed in one day, 11,901, and next year Mr. Meechai is confident he will break 2,000.

Growing crowds of men, often with their wives and children, attend the clinics, which are held in decorated tents and caravans and live up to their PDA billing as "festivals."

One man this year was brought by his mother who said she was tired of helping care for his children," Mr. Meechai said.

But there is no pressure from the PDA.

"Anything involving force between the navel and the knee has never worked in the history of mankind," Mr. Meechai said.

To ensure they will have no regrets, potential vasectomy patients are thoroughly questioned and counselled before the seven-minute operation.

"Vasectomies are reversible in 80 per cent of cases up to 10 years after the operation," Mr. Meechai said, "but we don't use that as an inducement."

Sterilisation and birth control pills are the most popular means of family planning in Thailand. Sterilisation is free in all PDA and government clinics, but a small fee is charged for pills or injectible contraceptives.

Abortion is illegal except in the case of rape or if the mother's health is endangered. Nonetheless an estimated 400,000 abortions were performed here last year, compared with one million live births.

The Buddhist religion of the vast majority of Thailand's 50 million citizens poses no problems for family planners.

"Buddha himself had only one child, and it is written in Buddhist scriptures that many births cause sorrow," Mr. Meechai said.

Family planning is also being linked with rural development. Under new government proposals villages which can prove their residents practise birth control will get priority in road and dam repairs.

And in six poor northeastern villages a \$15,000 development fund allotted to each village for income-generating projects will be doled out according to birth control habits.

One male sterilisation is worth \$40, a female sterilisation \$70 and use of the pill \$35. Any woman who goes one year without pregnancy would receive \$20 from the fund.

"In other words, they don't get their \$15,000 until they practise family planning," Mr. Meechai said.

Mr. Meechai is eager to spread the birth control word beyond Thailand.

The Sri Lankan government recently asked for 10,000 Meechai key rings — featuring a small clear plastic box containing a colourful condom and inscribed "break in case of emergency."

And soon the world's heads of state will open New Year's greeting cards from Mr. Meechai, wishing their countries a year of "increased productivity and subdued fertility."

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Fahim Gul of Pakistan on his way to victory against India's Darwala (No. 4) in Wednesday's clash at the 2nd Asian Squash Championship held at Amman Sports City.

Pakistan dominates Asian squash

AMMAN (J.T.) — The second Asian Squash Championship began in earnest at the Sports City squash courts Wednesday.

The day's play was highlighted by a match between Pakistan's Jamar Zamao (ranked fourth in the world) and Rajendra of India. The more experienced Zamao won 9-1, 9-1, 9-7.

World champion Jahanjir Khao of Pakistan did not arrive in time for a scheduled play Tuesday and consequently his match against Bahrain's Khaled Qamarallah did not take place. Qamarallah had a bye to the next round where he defeated Malaysia's Kattan 3-0. Kattan beat Jordan's Iyyad Kamal on Tuesday.

Other matches played Wednesday: Gogi Ala 'Eddine ranked fourth in Pakistan and 16th in the world defeated K. Ong (Malaysia) 3-0; Fahim Gul (Pakistan) ousted Darwala (India) 3-0; Peter Hill (Singapore) thrashed Ananda (India) 3-0.

India's Mahendra beat Manyam (Malaysia) 3-0, while Narad Singh of India has a close 3-2 victory over Zeo Al Abedeen of Singapore. Jordan's Yousef Soufwan was in trouble against Pakistan's Maqsood Ahmad who beat the Jordanian national champion 3-0.

Jahanjir Khan is expected to arrive today, Thursday, to participate in team events at the championship.

After the opening ceremony on Tuesday, Soufwan scored the first Jordanian victory beating Sri Lanka's Ramzi 9-2, 9-3, 9-4.

In the opening match of the tournament on Tuesday, Ala 'Eddine beat Jordan's Nidal Qarat 9-7, 9-6, 9-4. In another match held Tuesday evening Qamar Zamao ousted Ibrahim Kamal of Bahrain 3-0.

The tournament continues Thursday (4.00 p.m.) at the Sports City in Amman.

MIPTC lifts suspension against Vilas, fine remains

NEW YORK (R) — The Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MIPTC) Wednesday lifted its one-year ban on Argentine player Guillermo Vilas but endorsed its \$20,000 fine for accepting appearance money.

The penalties were imposed after Vilas, 31, allegedly received a fee to play in the Rotterdam Grand Prix last March. Vilas denied the allegation and appealed against the sanctions.

The MIPTC said the evidence offered by a series of witnesses in 1,220 pages of testimony outweighed the evidence offered by Vilas, who continued to play pending the outcome of the appeal.

But the MIPTC said it concluded that the suspension should be lifted immediately, because it found it "believable" that Vilas

tennis had been adversely affected for at least nine months by the charges.

The council added that during Vilas' 14 years as a professional, his conduct had been exemplary.

The MIPTC committee appointed to hear the appeal also heard evidence from the Rotterdam sports stadium managing director Cock Hoekwater, tournament director Wim Buitendijk and former tournament director Peter Bonhuis.

Last June, Hoekwater said \$60,000 was paid to Vilas' Roman

an business manager, Ioo Tiriac.

Appearing before the committee on December 8, Hoekwater said Tiriac tried in July to bribe Bonhuis into giving a detailed denial of the payment.

Bonhuis told the MIPTC hearing that he paid \$60,000 to Tiriac.

Bonhuis had earlier denied paying any money, but stated at the hearing he said this to protect Vilas.

Tiriac has denied receiving a payment, but Bonhuis said he handed it to him when they were alone in a Rotterdam hotel room in March. There were no witnesses to the payment, Bonhuis said.

The MIPTC said it plans no action against Tiriac.

Fittipaldi delays decision on return to racing

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Former world motor racing champion Emerson Fittipaldi has been test driving the new spirit-hart Formula One car here but has again refused to say whether he will return to the Formula One circuit this year.

The 37-year-old Brazilian, world champion in 1972 and 1974 but who retired after the 1980 championship, said he would make a decision on whether to accept an offer to drive the car in the coming season at the end of this week's testing session.

"I drove four very slow laps and it was impossible to give the car a full test," Fittipaldi told Reuters Monday. "I will make a decision at the end of the week."

Fittipaldi clocked one minute 49.55 for the 3.126 mile (5.031 kilometre) circuit, more than 15 seconds slower than the day's best time of 1:34.24 set by Italian Elio de Angelis in the new Lotus.

Most of the world's Formula One teams are at the Jacarepagua track, about 40 kilometres (25 miles) from the centre of Rio, ostensibly to test tyres. But many are using it as an opportunity to test their cars before the Grand Prix season opens here on March 25.

Coe aims for 800m gold at Los Angeles Olympics

LONDON (R) — Triple world record holder Sebastian Coe of Britain said Wednesday his main objective for 1984 was the 800 metres gold medal at the Los Angeles Olympics, a race for which he has already been nominated.

In an interview published in the London Times he said he did not know yet whether he would also try for the 1,500 metres, the distance over which he won a gold medal at the Moscow Olympics. "My motivation is still to win a gold at 800 metres, though I would be happy to win any medal at either," he added.

Coe, who holds the 800 metres, 1,000 metres and one mile world records, recently resumed training after suffering from the rare blood disease toxoplasmosis which prevented him from competing in the World Championships in Helsinki last year.

In spite of the additional discovery of a serious displacement

cover of his lower back, Coe is prepared to make a monumental effort once more while recognising that he may fall short of success or even be unable to run in Los Angeles at all.

Coe admits that the path back this year will be infinitely harder than the recovery he made after defeat in the 800 metres in Moscow to win the 1,500 metres five days later. "You could say that Moscow had previously been my toughest mental hurdle, but this is something much deeper," he said.

But he added: "Pressure is only what you allow to get through to you. I remember first going to the empty Lenin stadium, a track which I like, but it seemed somehow ominous, like a boxing ring, an appointment closing in on me. Yet when I recently went to the Los Angeles stadium, during a visit to America with my father, I simply felt free, and hopeful."

Liverpool salvages cup draw

LONDON (R) — Phil Neal shouldered the responsibility for a 60th minute penalty as holders Liverpool battled for their English Football League Cup lives at Sheffield Wednesday night.

The England full back calmly fired the spot kick past goalkeeper Marlo Hodge and the goal enabled Liverpool to salvage a 2-2 quarter-final draw against the second division leaders.

Steve Nichol put Liverpool ahead in the 20th minute, but a Sheffield Wednesday recovery was rewarded with goals from Gary Megson and a headed deflection by Liverpool's Mark Lawrenson.

Neal's penalty, awarded after Hodge fouled Ian Rush, gave Liverpool a replay chance to maintain their bid for a fourth successive League Cup triumph.

Aston Villa reached the semi-finals for the seventh time at the expense of Norwich who eliminated them from the Football Association I.F.A. Cup last week. First half goals by Gary Shaw and Paul Rideout gave Villa a 2-0 win.

Kobayashi snatches title

TOKYO (R) — Lanky Japanese Koji Kobayashi, blasting away with both fists, pulled off a major upset by snatching the World Boxing Council (WBC) flyweight title from Frank Cedenio of the Philippines here Wednesday.

Kobayashi stopped the defending champion after one minute 48 seconds in the second of the scheduled 12 rounds.

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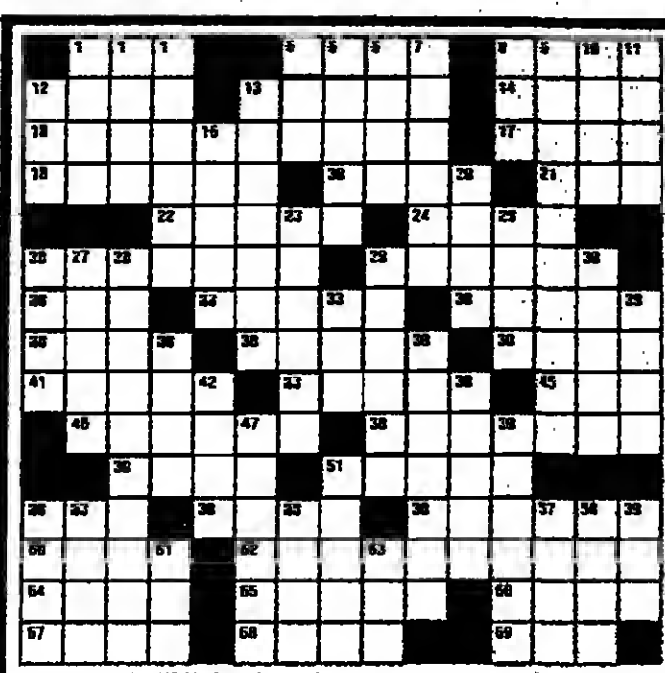
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THE Daily Crossword by C. F. Murray

ACROSS	DOWN	ACROSS	DOWN
1 Menu words	28 Orn's land	51 Gem	16 Age
4 Short distance	29 Hair oil	52 Past	20 Hava
8 Way off	31 Antique car	54 City or	22 Water
12 Israeli airline	32 Popular	56 Saudi	23 partner
13 Heroes	34 Dances	60 Entry	25 Palm fruit
14 Skirt for Fonteyn	36 Declares bluntly	62 Without choice	26 "My Name is"
15 Weak one	38 Rums	64 Miami's county	27 Even
17 Garden spot	40 Old Norse verse	65 — Island, NY	28 Prim and proper one
18 Spots	41 Award	66 US missile	29 Stab
19 Air speed number	43 Braves	67 Hades' river	30 Provide
21 Semra or Rudy	45 Press for payment	68 — we forget	31 Monk's title
22 Reddish brown	46 Words with music	69 Washington, agy.	32 Beach stuff
24 Lamart of films	48 Able to see in the dark		33 Something to sell
	50 Accoutrements		34 Ocean lanes

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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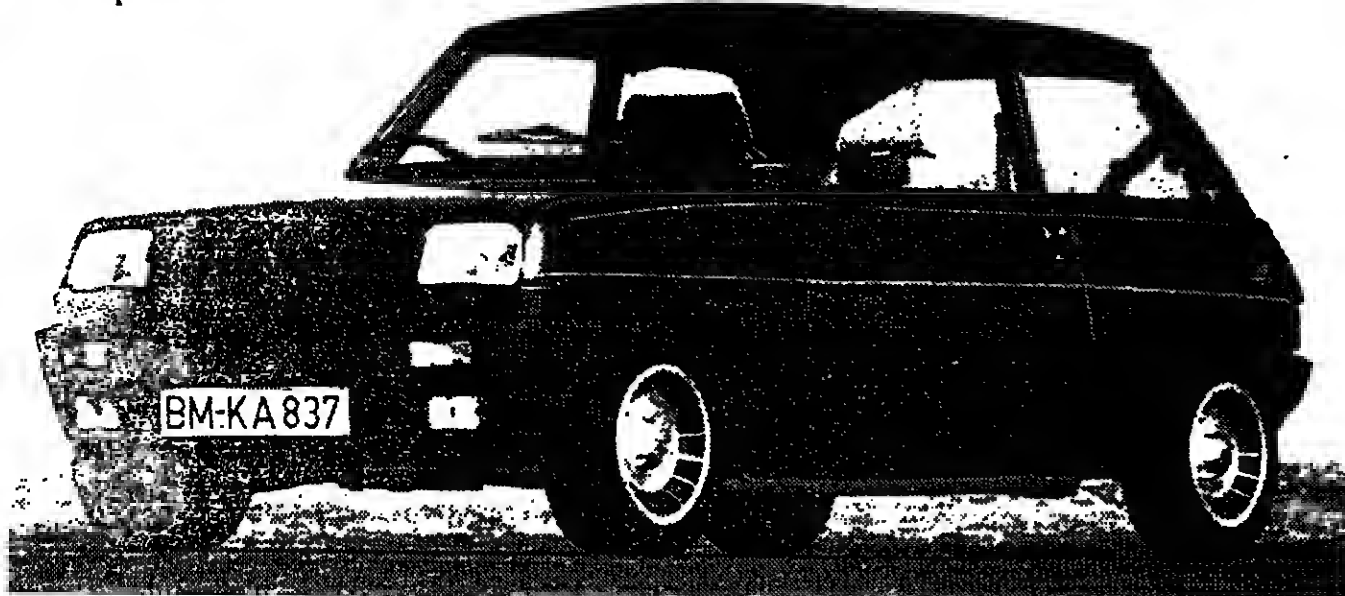
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Israelis face hard times as economic crisis worsens

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — For hundreds of thousands of ordinary Israelis, the years of plenty have ended and hard times are upon them with a vengeance.

Since October's major devaluation of the shekel, inflation has shot up from an annual rate of 141 per cent to 191 per cent in December and wages have been slashed by around 41 per cent in real terms, economists estimate.

A striking change is evident on returning to Israel after 3 months abroad.

"Why on earth did you come back?" one neighbour asked only half jokingly. "Don't you know what's going on here?"

A notice in the apartment block announced that the central heating would be switched on 2 hours later every day this winter to save money.

In the taxi from the airport to

Jerusalem, the car radio played a new pop record about the price rises.

"By the time you've filled your car, there are only a few pennies left for the rest of the month," ran the lyrics.

Government ministers have been holding almost daily meetings to deal with the economic crisis and formulate an austerity programme agreeable to all factions in the right-wing Likud coalition.

The latest government measures, announced at the beginning of the week, introduced curbs on foreign currency holdings and banned Israelis from retaining bank accounts abroad, trading in foreign shares or dealing in gold.

Because of the crisis, people who have lived in Israel for years are now considering emigrating or have already decided to leave, Mr.

Dov Shilansky, deputy minister responsible for combatting emigration, recently estimated that between 50,000 and 100,000 Israelis will leave this year.

"When you have a family, you have to think of their future. Nobody minds working hard to get ahead but we are now working very hard indeed just to stop falling too deeply into debt," said Mr. Danny Katz, an Australian who came to Israel 5 years ago.

"We came here because we were Zionists. Recently, for the first time, my wife and I talked about going back. Many friends have already left. It's very depressing to see your friends go."

At the supermarket, prices are no longer displayed because they change so often. Instead, the cash register translates the code on each product into its current price.

"Nobody knows the price of anything any more," said one checkout girl. "The consumers don't know, we don't know, only the computer knows."

At a photography store, the owner complained: "You're the first person to come in with pictures to be developed for 2 days. People can't afford to take pictures anymore or they're too depressed to want to."

"I open up every day but I haven't made any money for 3 months. I'm just sitting here watching my savings drain away," he added.

Newspapers recently reported the arrest of a young woman in Tiberias for stealing groceries from a supermarket. She told police she was trying to get food for her family.

Mr. Haim Shapiro, restaurant critic for the Jerusalem Post newspaper, complained in his column he had become irrelevant.

"The restaurant critic of an Israeli paper is much like a war correspondent, and ventures into territory that few of his readers will see with their own eyes," he said.

"Indeed, I feel it scarcely matters whether I report on cheap or expensive places as readers have given up going anywhere, he added.

Israelis have been living with 3-figure inflation for 4 years. The difference now is that most of the ways by which they avoided its worst effects have been removed. Banks now bill credit card holders every 2 weeks instead of monthly and charge interest on overdrafts monthly instead of quarterly.

Interest rates are now about 500 per cent a year.

People used to be able to safeguard their savings by holding foreign currency, but that loophole has been closed by rules allowing only travellers going abroad to buy currency.

Many Israelis made large profits on the stock market in 1981 and 1982. But last year there was a slump in January and a major collapse in October which badly hit many small investors.

Mr. Matti Saar took early retirement from El Al, the national airline, last April and invested his \$25,000 severance pay in bank shares, which were then considered safe.

"71 per cent went to the winds and I have now been forced back to work buying and selling second-hand articles," he said.

Mr. Moshe Yoell seemed to speak for many Israelis when he said: "For years, I've known the economy was bad. The economy has always been bad but nobody ever suffered. Now, we're suffering."

U.S. Supreme Court rules home video taping is lawful

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court, in a victory for the home video recording industry, has ruled that video taping of Hollywood films and television programmes for home use does not break the law.

The 5-4 decision is likely to set off an intensive lobbying battle in Congress between the home video taping industry and Hollywood.

The film industry has argued it is not properly compensated for home taping of films which it says has cut down on the sales of pre-recorded tapes and on audiences that will view subsequent showings of films on television.

Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, said at a press conference: "This is just the opening shot in a battle Congress must decide."

No commercial gain

The majority opinion, written by Justice Paul Stevens, said home video tape recorders were principally used for entertainment and not for commercial gain.

"One may search the copyright act in vain for any sign that the elected representatives of the millions of people who watch television every day have made it unlawful to copy a programme for later viewing at home, or have enacted a flat prohibition against the sales of machines that make such copying possible," Justice Stevens said.

The ruling was made on a case by Universal City Studios Inc. and Walt Disney Productions against the Sony Corp of America and other video equipment manufacturers.

A federal appeals court in California ruled in 1981 that home video taping violated federal copyright laws and said some form of compensation must go to the movie-makers.

The Supreme Court disagreed and suggested in its judgment Tuesday that Congress might want to review the 1976 copyright law in view of new technology affecting taping and recording.

The film industry has asked Congress to impose royalties on video cassette recorders and blank tapes.

Twentieth Century Fox said in Los Angeles after the decision it would push in Congress for a change in copyright laws to provide film companies with a royalty on the sale of blank video cassettes and video recording equipment as many European countries had done.

The Sony Corp. of America said it would fight any attempt to undermine the Supreme Court decision, either in Congress or through further litigation.

The court's judgment was expected to lead to congressional consideration of action on audio recorders and tapes.

Sony, manufacturer of a leading brand of video tape recorder, had argued that home taping constituted fair use of copyrighted material.

Video recording industry sources estimate that sales of video

recorders could reach 5 million units this year and will rise to 45 million by 1990.

Mr. Valenti, the Motion Picture Association head, said if copyright fees were not imposed on the use of video recorders, creativity would be discouraged and the American public would suffer.

Japan's Sony hails ruling

However, Japan's Sony Corporation, a major manufacturer of Video Tape Recorders (VTRs), hailed as an important victory for consumers the U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

Sony Executive Director Naoto Uchibuchi said in a press statement: "We are very happy about the ruling which fully backed our assertion that home video taping by individuals for non-profit making purposes is legal."

"We welcome the fact that the VTR will create new benefits for users and consumers," he said.

Sony America President Kenji Tamiya said in a separate statement released in Tokyo that he hoped future growth of video technology would now proceed to the benefit of all parties.

Japanese firms produced 18 million VTRs in 1983, 15 million of which were exported to the U.S. and West Europe, according to the Electronics Industries Association of Japan.

The firms, which account for some 90 per cent of world VTR output, form 2 groups which produce the rival Betamax and VHS systems.

Sony, leader of the Betamax Group, produced some 2.5 million recorders last year, of which about 625,000 were exported to the U.S., the association said.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed higher after a moderately active session. Dealers noted fresh institutional demand and at 1500 hrs the F.T. index was up 12.5 to a record 819.6.

Oil was among main gainers. B.P. rose 21p to 421 and other oils showed gains ranging to 17p.

Government bonds were 3/4 down after an irregular trend, awaiting allotment details for the £1 billion treasury 10 per cent convertible 1991 stock, which was oversubscribed at Wednesday's tender. Golds were steadier in slack trading and North American shares were mixed.

Fate and Lyle was up 1 1/2p to 433 following improved full year results and Rascal rose 5p to 208 on half-year figures in line with market expectations.

Wednesday's advance embraced most sectors and gains of 1 1/2p to 1 1/4p were noted in BOC at 305, TI group at 188, Unilever at 755, Bower at 272, Glaxo at 795 and RTZ at 654. ICI rose 4p to 648.

Banks had Natwest up 22p at 699, in insurance equity life also rose 22p at 690, in insurance equity life also rose 22p at 690 but Phoenix assurance fell 8p to 458.

P and O was 2p lower at 243 after Trafalgar House chairman said he was undecided over the renewal of a bid for the company.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4075/85	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4075/85	Canadian dollars
	2.8165/75	West German marks
	3.1700/1715	Dutch guilders
	2.2300/2400	Swiss francs
	57.45/49	Belgian francs
	8.6130/60	French francs
	1704.50/1710.50	Italian lire
	234.10/110	Japanese yen
	8.1975/2025	Swedish crowns
	7.8650/7870	Norwegian crowns
	10.1450/2000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	368.25/368.75	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I had it made just for you! Now you can play golf and shovel the driveway at the same time!"

Boeing unveils latest product

SEATTLE (R) — The Boeing Company, the non-communist world's biggest plane manufacturer, has unveiled its latest product, an airliner mundane in appearance and cheap to develop but billed as super-efficient.

Called the Boeing 737-300, the short-to-medium-range 141-seat aircraft has engines made by a French-U.S. joint company, has so far been ordered by 6 airlines including 1 British and 1 Canadian, and is seen by its makers as at least a partial rival to the proposed new European Airbus A321.

The first of the \$22 million airliner, which was rolled out at Boeing's huge plant outside this northwestern city Tuesday, is due to start test flights in March.

Deliveries are expected by the end of this year.

Orders for 56 aircraft have been received so far, all from U.S. carriers except for the British charter company Orion Airways, which has ordered 5, and Canadian Pacific Air, which has ordered 10.

In appearance, the 737-300 looks much like its successful forerunners in the stubby, twin-jet 737 series of which more than 1,000 have been built since they began flying in 1967.

But it has been lengthened by 265 centimetres which is about 3 seat rows, has engines built by CFM International, a joint concern of France's SNECMA and America's General Electric Company, and incorporates advanced aluminium alloys and weight-saving materials such as graphite.

Boeing says that its new airliner will have a 20 to 25 per cent reduction in fuel burned per seat, compared with the aircraft's immediate predecessor, the 737-200, and is one of the most fuel-efficient in its class.

Company officials say the aircraft will take off more quietly than any commercial airliner operating today, although they concede that on landing, the 737-300 is slightly noisier than its chief rival, a new version of the McDonnell Douglas DC9.

The 737-300 is designed with a range that will enable it to fly, for example, nonstop from London to Cairo or from Singapore to Perth, Western Australia, or Shanghai.

Boeing's high opinion of its new product is shared by some Wall Street analysts.

According to Mr. Paul Nisbet of Prudential-Bache, "the 737-300 is a relatively cheaply-developed response in advance to the Airbus A321."

"For about \$300 million, Boeing has been able to develop an aircraft comparable to one that Airbus will have to spend \$200 to \$300 million on," Mr. Nisbet wrote.

Boeing itself does not see the 737-300 as a direct competitor to the European consortium Airbus Industrie's A321, which if it is launched will have a larger capacity.

But Boeing officials say they are not convinced that there is a substantial market for the size of aircraft that Airbus has in mind.

If such a market does in fact materialise, Boeing says it can "stretch" the 737 still further, or build a completely new aircraft, which at present is known as the 7-dash-7 because the company has not yet decided exactly what to call it.

Japan's ministers discuss budget

TOKYO (R) — A week of wrangling among Japanese ministers over the shape of this year's budget begins Thursday as they seek their share of government funds at a time when the finance ministry wants a virtual freeze on spending. The search will also be on for new sources of revenue to cover income tax cuts promised by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone before last month's elections in which his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) lost its majority in parliament. It now depends on independents and a small conservative splinter group.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JAN. 19, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Except for some delays where some long-desired wish is concerned, you are now under excellent influences for putting into motion a course of action that is broad and comprehensive.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Steer clear of that money problem with another and you can then carry through with activities of worth you have in mind.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid one who is inimical to your best interests and look to family for the support you may need at this time.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Regular tasks can be annoying to you today, so dash out and do those profitable and interesting things at hand.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Finances should be uppermost on your mind. You can handle them well, provided you forget a jealous romance.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Rely on yourself and charm others into doing what you want that is of a constructive nature. Avoid opposition from kin.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Walk and drive with greater care than usual. Don't change those particular plans you want to put in operation shortly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Forget the financial side of life and concentrate on more private, personal affairs and improve them. Spend time with friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get into some kind of civic work that will give you added prestige and stop being demanding with friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Stop worrying about something you can do little about and take on new interests that can be more profitable.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get busy on practical affairs and avoid friends who expect too much of you. Devote spare time to your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be with persons who have your interests at heart and have good ideas. Steer clear of irate higher-ups.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get into money matters that are worthwhile and of real scope and be ready to do the work that can bring big success.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will early in life make wonderful plans for the future and will have the ability to make them materialize. Be encouraging in this. Teach not to be jealous or greedy, but more willing to share good fortune with the less fortunate.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
1984. The McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JAN. 20, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime is great for traveling, changes and new arrangements of all kinds. Put on your thinking cap and decide what you want in the future. Be patient of any delays at night.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you adopt a new attitude, you can be more successful with your capabilities. A more charming manner and courtesy is required.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you confide your plans for the future with your family, you can get fine results with them. Apply best efforts.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Plan how to become more successful in the future and get busy at novel activities. Use much care in motion of all kind.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Any monetary ideas you have should not be limited for lack of vision. You are capable of more than you think.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Devise a plan by which you can make your fondest dreams come true and then start the wheels rolling in the right direction.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) If you get in touch with a very successful person you know, you can be informed how best to increase your own success.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you bring a group of friends together who are successful, you can have a happy time, as well as gain valuable data.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get your talents to the attention of some influential person tactfully and you can gain fine benefits.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Adding to present interests is wise today since there is every opportunity to do so. Your intuition is on target.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Study into new systems for handling your affairs and you can make greater progress in business in the days ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are gregarious and this is a good day to see as many persons as you can who can be very helpful to you.

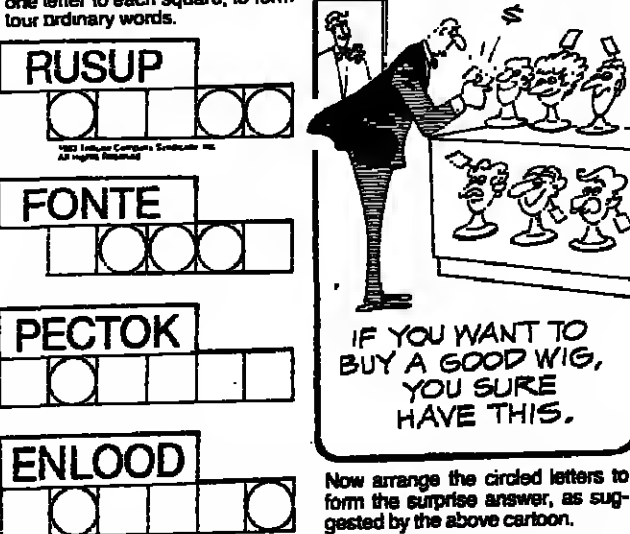
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get busy early at improving your surroundings so that you can be more comfortable in them. Work more efficiently.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be full of charm and magnetism. Early teach to be more independent and willing to work for whatever is desired, otherwise your progeny could easily get spoiled by others. Life is successful and money plentiful.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
1984. The McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: _____ IT

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GAUZE WHISK NOUGAT TAUGHT

Answer: What do you call it when pigs do their laundry? — HOGWASH

Gromyko renews attack on U.S. missile deployment

STOCKHOLM (R) — The Soviet Union Wednesday accused the United States of an arms buildup aimed at military superiority and said new U.S. missiles in Western Europe were undermining security.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko made the charges in a toughly-worded speech to a 35-nation European Disarmament Conference. He was due to hold talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz later in the day.

He said that along with new U.S. nuclear missiles, "militarism, enmity and war hysteria are being exported to Western Europe."

Mr. Gromyko accused the United States of breaking off negotiations on medium-range missiles, which Moscow quit last November after the first U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 rockets arrived in

West Germany, Britain and Italy.

He reiterated Kremlin policy that the Soviet Union would return to the talks only if NATO showed itself ready to "return to the situation before deployment."

Mr. Gromyko accused Washington of setting out "to disrupt the existing correlation of forces."

"Its aim is to acquire military superiority over the Soviet Union," he said.

"The NATO countries are building up their military superiority through a massive buildup of nuclear armaments."

"This in the thinking of United States strategists might suc-

posedly win them a nuclear war," Mr. Gromyko said.

Mr. Shultz, who addressed the conference Tuesday, has refused to predict whether his meeting later Wednesday with Mr. Gromyko — their first since a stormy confrontation in Madrid after the Soviet downing of a South Korean airliner last September — would mark the beginning of a thaw in current icy U.S.-Soviet relations.

He sat grim-faced as Mr. Gromyko Wednesday accused Washington of "reckless crusades and tagging illiterate labels on entire countries and peoples."

Mr. Gromyko dismissed President Reagan's call on Monday for a constructive dialogue with Moscow, saying: "It is deeds that are required and not mere verbal exercises that have been resorted to increasingly in Washington in the last few days... because of considerations of the moment."

"The real situation is not changed," he said. What was required was a real turn in U.S. policy from militarism to peaceful cooperation.

Mr. Gromyko repeated Soviet proposals for a nuclear freeze and a treaty on the demilitarization of outer space.

"Only the blind can fail to see the danger to mankind from outer space, should it ever be militarized," he said.

Mr. Gromyko criticized U.S. budget allocations for military purposes, which he said were growing at unprecedented rates.

"New missiles, bombers and aircraft carriers are being churned out in a kind of pathological obsession."

"In short, the present U.S. administration is an administration thinking in terms of war and acting accordingly," Mr. Gromyko said.

U.S. seeks to bring Moscow back to talks

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. arms negotiator Paul Nitze says an effort will be made to bring Moscow back to talks on limiting nuclear missiles in Europe, but he believes the outlook is bleak.

Mr. Nitze said Tuesday after conferring with President Reagan that the situation "is not that hopeful," although Mr. Reagan was studying inducements that could be offered to the Kremlin.

The Soviet Union walked out of Geneva talks on limiting medium-range missiles in November when Mr. Reagan began to deploy Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

Mr. Nitze conferred with Mr. Reagan a day after the president made a speech in which he committed himself to détente, asked Moscow to open a dialogue for constructive cooperation, and urged it to return to the Geneva talks.

Mr. Nitze told reporters: "I believe there are things to make it easier for them to return to the negotiations without our making

improper concessions, and that is the sort of thing under consideration."

Mr. Reagan first proposed the zero-zero option, the elimination of all medium-range missiles, and later said he would negotiate an agreement for equal and verifiable levels.

No agreement was reached before Mr. Reagan went ahead with NATO plans to begin the deployment of U.S. missiles in December.

Mr. Nitze said Mr. Reagan voiced deep disappointment at their meeting about the Soviet walkout in Geneva, which worsened a chill in relations that began when a Soviet jet shot down a South Korean airliner in September.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes denied Soviet press allegations that Mr. Reagan's speech was mainly election-year propaganda to erase a hawkish image attributed to the president two weeks before an expected announcement that he will seek a second term.

New Soviet missiles could strike Britain, France

MOSCOW (R) — New Soviet missile bases which Moscow has set up in East Germany appear to be equipped with SS-20 rockets capable of hitting France and Britain, Western military experts in Moscow said Wednesday.

A report in the Soviet Army Daily Krasnaya Zvezda (RED STAR) said troops were now manning the new bases and in charge of "tactical means of an enhanced range."

The Western experts said this terminology applied most accurately to the SS-20, a new Soviet missile which has a range of 1,000 kilometres and could strike targets in most of Britain, all of West Germany and a major part of France.

After Moscow first announced plans to station new missiles in East Germany and Czechoslovakia last October, the official News Agency TASS warned that they would be able to reach Britain and West Germany within five minutes of launching.

Officials in the Western NATO alliance have said they expect

Moscow to deploy shorter range SS-21 and SS-23 rockets, which have a range of 120 kilometres and 500 kilometres respectively.

The SS-22 is a modernised and more powerful version of the SS-12 missile, which was developed in the 1960s and is believed to have been deployed only inside Soviet territory.

The report in Krasnaya Zvezda gave no indication of the location of the new East German missile sites nor of the number of new weapons deployed.

Western military attaches in Moscow said Wednesday that at present they had no information on this either.

A report in the Communist Party Daily Pravda made clear that new missile sites in Czechoslovakia were not yet ready to be made operational.

The report, by a senior Czechoslovak party official named as M. Stepanek, said preparatory work was still being carried out on the missile bases.

Arms race threatening world peace, Zhao says

OTTAWA (R) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang, calling the arms race between the superpowers a serious threat to world peace, says Peking wants neither hot war nor cold war.

At a state dinner in his honour Tuesday night, he also praised Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau for his disarmament crusade and "tireless efforts in seeking relaxation of international tension."

Mr. Zhao, who came to Ottawa after a nine-day visit to the United States, pursued the same theme in his dinner toast Tuesday night as he had earlier in the day when he became the first Communist leader ever to address the Canadian Parliament.

Mr. Zhao told the dinner that "the superpowers' rivalry for hegemony and their arms race constitute serious threats to world peace and security."

"We want neither hot war nor cold war. We want a stable and lasting peace," he said.

Mr. Trudeau is calling for a

summit of the world's five nuclear powers, a move given only conditional support by Peking.

Mr. Zhao, starting a week-long visit to Canada, stressed to parliament Tuesday that the lead on disarmament had to come from the superpowers as they had the biggest nuclear arsenals.

Mr. Trudeau had hoped for more positive commitment from the Chinese because his peace initiative is now stalled. Plans to visit Moscow to wrap up a round-the-world peace pilgrimage have been thwarted by Soviet leader Yuri Andropov's ill health.

Tuesday night, the Canadian leader again sought some specific backing for his ideas on disarmament from Peking. "We look to China to take a leading role on this," Mr. Trudeau told Mr. Zhao at the dinner.

"The threat of nuclear war is too great to be left to the superpowers alone. All states must assume their responsibilities," he said.

Nicaragua says U.S. involved in rebel activity

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua said Tuesday a U.S. helicopter brought down last week by its troops was providing direct support to U.S.-backed rightist guerrillas operating from Honduras, and forecast U.S. and Honduran involvement in a future rebel offensive.

Defence Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra told a press conference in Managua two American engineers on board the helicopter when it was forced to land after overflying Nicaraguan territory were experts in explosives, sabotage and demolition.

The craft's pilot was killed by Sandinist fire after bringing down his machine just inside neighbouring Honduras, but the two engineers escaped unharmd and

are due to hold a press conference in Honduras.

Mr. Ortega Saavedra also said U.S. and Honduran troops would take part in a major rebel offensive soon against ports in the northern provinces of Nueva Segovia and Yelapa Norte. "This direct involvement of the U.S. army in counter-revolutionary activities is dangerous and adventuresome because it can cause more loss of American lives," the minister said.

Honduras, the closest U.S. ally in the region, is hosting joint war games involving up to 5,500 U.S. troops. Nicaragua has charged that the exercises, known as Big Pine II, are a cover for military aid to anti-Sandinist insurgents.

Australia to strengthen presence in Indian Ocean

CANBERRA (R) — Australia is to establish a stronger political and military presence in the Indian Ocean, Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said Tuesday.

The government will seek to establish stronger political links in the region, particularly with developing island states, he said in a statement.

Government sources said spe-

cial attention would be given to Mauritius, Madagascar, the Seychelles and the Maldives. The new policy is expected to include regular visits to Indian Ocean ports by Australian naval vessels.

"Together with the Pacific Ocean and the region to Australia's north, the Indian Ocean is an area of strategic significance to Australia," Mr. Hayden said.

Air France Jumbo lands after mid-air explosion

KARACHI (R) — An Air France Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet returned safely to Karachi Airport Wednesday after an explosion on board in mid-air, airport officials said.

Airport Manager Captain Wasim Khan told Reuters the aircraft returned to the airport 27 minutes after taking off for Dharan, Saudi Arabia.

He said no one on board was injured.

Fayyaz Khan, deputy station manager for Air France at Karachi Airport told Reuters: "The explosion ripped open a small portion of the aircraft from its bottom side."

"There is no cause of alarm as all the 246 passengers and 15 crew members are safe," he added.

The plane, flight 151 from Man-

ila and Bangkok, landed at Karachi early this morning. It took off for Dharan at 1.54 a.m. after taking on 64 passengers and returned about half an hour later after the explosion.

Mr. Fayyaz Khan said the airport security men and Air France staff were probing into the cause of the blast.

Airport officials said it might have been caused by sudden loss of fuselage compression.

But security men said they were checking the baggage and passengers list for any Iranians on board.

The Air France office in Karachi and three other French offices in the city were the target of bomb blasts last year. Police subsequently rounded up at least 12 Iranians.

State of emergency extended in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (R) — President Junius Jayewardene Wednesday extended a nationwide eight-month-old state of emergency in Sri Lanka for a further month amid sporadic separatist guerrilla violence in the island's northern province.

The extension of the emergency will be discussed in parliament Thursday, official sources said.

Special powers under the emergency have been given to troops and police to curb guerrilla activities in the north and to prevent fresh outbreak of ethnic violence in other parts of the country.

A conference of political parties, ethnic and religious groups called by Mr. Jayewardene is underway in Colombo to find ways of easing tension between the majority Sinhalese and Tamils.

The Tamils, who form 2.5 million of the island's 15 million people, are demanding a separate state in the northern and eastern provinces where most of the minority community live.

The main minority party, the

Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) which is leading the campaign for a separate state, is among the political parties at the conference.

Sixteen TULF parliamentarians have lost their seats in the legislature after they boycotted the assembly continuously for three months to protest against the passing of laws banning separatism.

Mr. Jayewardene has postponed by-elections to these seats, all in the northern and eastern provinces, using emergency powers. He has said the by-elections would be held when conditions are more suitable.

Meanwhile, police in the northern Jaffna district said Wednesday nine fasting university students, abducted by gunmen on Monday night, were still missing.

They were questioning three nurses and a Christian nun in connection with the snatching of the students who were on the eighth day of a hunger strike. The nurses and the nun had also been seized by the gunmen and later released.

COLUMNS 768

Indian minister rescued from elephants

NEW DELHI (R) — The chief minister of India's north eastern Arunachal Pradesh state was rescued last Sunday by an airforce helicopter from a rampaging herd of elephants, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported. Chief Minister Gegang Apang and his party was on a walking tour in the state when the wild elephants attacked. They then took refuge in a village 50 kilometres from the state capital of Itanagar. When the village was surrounded by the elephants, a helicopter was summoned. The chief minister told reporters later more than 40 people had been injured by the elephants.

Jet crashes near germ laboratories

LONDON (R) — A Jaguar fighter aircraft on a training flight crashed near Britain's top secret chemical defence establishment at Porton Down. Ministry of Defence officials said. The pilot ejected and landed safely on the roof of a building inside the establishment while his aircraft crashed on open ground nearby, they added. Porton Down, in the southern county of Wiltshire, is the home of research into such dangerous illnesses as rabies and lassa fever as well as into germ and chemical warfare. The local Conservative member of parliament, Robert Key, said: "This could have caused a major disaster." He called for an immediate review of flying restrictions around Porton Down.

Former Beatle's wife arrested

LONDON (A.P.) — Paul McCartney's American wife, Linda, was arrested at London's Heathrow Airport on Tuesday and charged with possessing marijuana two days after the couple were convicted of possessing the drug in Barbados, Scotland Yard said. She was arrested after the couple landed with their three children, police said. At the airport, McCartney, 41, told reporters he thought marijuana should be legalised. A Scotland Yard spokesman said she was scheduled to appear before Uxbridge Magistrates Court in West London on the new charge Jan. 24. Mrs. McCartney, 41, described by police as a singer, was arrested by customs officers, a Yard spokesman said.

'1984' tops best-seller list

NEW YORK (R) — George Orwell's 35-year-old classic "Nineteen Eighty-Four" has reached the top of the American best-seller list in the year about which it was written, the New York Times said Wednesday. The paper, quoting publishing executives, said the book has been selling at the rate of 50,000 a day and would appear in first place next Sunday on its list of best-selling paperbacks. In 1949 the book, which paints a grim picture of a modern totalitarian society, held third place on the list for 20 weeks. "Nineteen Eighty-Four" is selling just as briskly in the author's own country where Penguin Publishing Co. of Britain reported sales of 430,000 copies since September.

Couple arrested for stealing crocodiles

TAIPEI (R) — A Taiwanese couple have been arrested for stealing 118 crocodiles from a reptile farm in southern Taiwan after the reptiles were found hibernating in their fishpond, police reported. Police said they had some trouble removing the crocodiles, worth \$37,000, from the pond, but were grateful they were in their winter hibernation.

U.S. anti-satellite missile to be tested this month

WASHINGTON (R) — A new U.S. missile, designed for launch from an F-15 fighter, is likely to be tested for the first time by Jan. 31, the Pentagon said Tuesday.

Spokesman Michael Burch said the test, originally scheduled for last October or November, had been delayed because of mechanical problems, bad weather and lack of test range availability.

The anti-satellite (ASAT) system, which has been developed in secret, had been due for testing

several years ago, but the programme was called off without explanation.

U.S. officials say the Soviet Union already has an ASAT system in operation, but some military sources say it has been tested only about 20 times and must be considered experimental.

In the U.S. test the modified F-15 will take off from Edwards Air Force Base in California and fire its 5.5 metre (18 foot) two-stage rocket somewhere over Vandenberg Air Force Base near Santa Barbara, California.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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MINE THOSE DIAMONDS!

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♦ AK J96

♣ Void

♦ AK3

♦ A10554

WEST EAST

♣ 42 ♠ 3

♦ 653 ♣ QJ108742

♦ Q1087542 ♠ 96

♦ 3 ♣ KQ7

SOUTH

♣ Q10875

♦ AK9

♣ J

♦ J962

The bidding:

West North East South

3 ♦ Dble Pass 4 ♣

Pass 6 ♣ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♣.

There are those who preempt on very weak hands in the belief that they should do all they can to interfere with the enemy auction. But that tactic can backfire — it can sometimes allow declarer to bring home his contract because the preemptive bid has revealed a defender's hand.

West could have been sentenced for attempted robbery because of his light opening bid. It did not prevent his opponents from reaching their spade slam.

North made a takeout double

and then went straight to slam when South jumped to four spades in response.

West led a low club, and it was obviously a singleton. It was also the only lead to give declarer a problem — with any other attack, declarer could have drawn trumps, stripped the red suits from his hand and dummy, and then end played East by running a club to one of East's honors.

It might seem that declarer must now lose two club tricks, but he found an ingenious method of landing his slam. He won the ace of clubs and drew two rounds of trumps. Next came the aces of hearts, shuffling two clubs from dummy, and a club ruff. Since West was now marked with nothing but seven diamonds in his hand, the coup de grace was administered.

Declarer cashed the high diamonds, discarding a club from hand, and then continued with the table's remaining diamond. However, instead of ruffing this trick, he stuffed another club from the closed hand.

West won the trick, but he did not relish having the lead. On his forced diamond return, declarer ruffed on the board while getting rid of the last club from his hand. So he lost only a diamond trick, and the slam was home.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkin

NAUMACHIA

By William Canino

ACROSS

1 Lumberjack

2 Gasoline pump

3 Car in line

4 Limerick on

5 Indian voyage

6 Very odd

7 Unpleasantly

8 Unpleasantly

9 Unpleasantly

10 Unpleasantly

11 Unpleasantly

12 Unpleasantly

13 Unpleasantly

14 Unpleasantly

15 Unpleasantly

16 Unpleasantly

17 Unpleasantly

18 Unpleasantly

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